

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/615,857

Examiner

M. R. Sedighian

Applicant(s)

CHOW ET AL.

Art Unit

2633

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 7/9/03, 1/11/05, 1/21/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 42-56, renumbered as 1-15.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 09 July 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

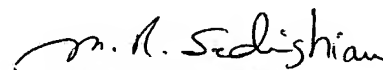
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 7/9/03
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


M. R. SEDIGHIAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

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1. This communication is responsive to applicant's preliminary amendments of 7/9/2003 in the application of Chow et al. filed 7/9/2003. The preliminary amendments have been entered. Claims 42-56 and 57-64 are now pending.

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Wayne Tang on 1/11/2005 and 1/21/2005.

Applicants elected the examination of pending claims 42-56. Claims 1-41 and 57-77 have been canceled, since the group of claims 1-41 and 57-77 was restricted before. Claims 42-56 are now examined.

IN THE CLAIMS

3. In claim 42, the phrase "an optical detector unit for each" in line 7, has been changed to ---a plurality of optical detector units, each of the optical detector units corresponding to a ---.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As to claim 42, the prior art of Ge et al. (US Patent No: 6,819,870), Miles et al. (US Patent No: 6,665,495), and Yamamoto et al. (US Patent No: 5,859,718) do not fairly teach or suggest a plurality of optical storage devices that are coupled to an optical fiber, each of which

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stores a segment of an information code and emitting the light encoding the segment; a plurality of optical detector units, each of which being exposed to the segment light, and each having a first and a second photodetector; and a light emitter array that is optically coupled to the optical detector units, in addition with other limitations recited in claim 42.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Ge et al. (US Patent No: 6,819,870) is cited to show an optical data transmission system for routing of data packets (col. 1, lines 15-19, col. 14, lines 2-19 and fig. 1)

Miles et al. (US Patent No: 6,665,495) is cited to show a system and method for providing non-blocking routing of optical data through a telecommunication router that allows full utilization of available capacity (col. 1, lines 7-11 and figs. 4, 5, 6, 7).

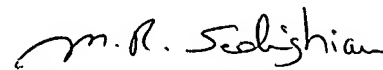
Yamamoto et al. (US Patent No: 5,859,718) is cited to show an optical transmission system for routing of data packets (col. 1, lines 1-20, col. 5, lines 10-65 and figs. 7, 18, 23, 28A, 28B).

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to M. R. Sedighian whose telephone number is (571) 272-3034. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (from 9 AM to 5 PM).

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jason Chan can be reached on (571) 272-3022. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


M. R. SEDIGHIAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER